

**ANGUS COUNCIL
CHILDREN AND LEARNING COMMITTEE 19 MAY 2015**

INSPECTION OF THE ANGUS COUNCIL SUPPORTED LODGING SCHEME FOR CARE LEAVERS

Background

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. The Angus Council Supported Lodging Scheme was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 20 May 2013. The service provides young people with the opportunity to live in the home of a carer who has been assessed and approved by a council approved Supported Carers Panel. This provides young people with a resource that allows them to develop their life skills in a supportive environment helping prepare them to move to a more independent setting. The service sits within the resources provided by the Angus Council, Throughcare and Aftercare Team. The service was subject to an unannounced visit to the service on 19 and 20 February 2015. This is the first inspection the service has had since its inception.

The inspection focuses on 'quality themes' and under each are 'quality statements' which describe what a service should be doing well for that theme. Services are graded on how the service performs against the quality themes and statements.

The report can be accessed online:

http://www.careinspectorate.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=7644&Itemid=489&bereNextPageId=QualityGrades_action.php&action=displayGrades&CaseNumber=CS2013315948

What the service does well

- The service provides a very good range of supports to carers from the point of enquiry, through the assessment process, to the placement of young people. Support is provided from a dedicated member of staff who is well supported by the Throughcare team and manager.
- The service is committed to consulting with carers, young people and other professionals to improve service delivery and outcomes for young people.

What the service could do better

- The service should review current staffing arrangements as part of their service development strategy. The service should improve the range of training available to carers.

Conclusion

The Inspection concluded that the service is well-managed, offers regular and appropriate support to carers and is focussed on making appropriate matches between carers and young people.

Recommendations

1. The service should provide access to the Foster Carers training calendar at the earliest opportunity.
2. The service should consider introducing a mentoring system for new carers.
3. There should be immediate consideration given to increasing the protected time available to staff supporting the service.
4. The service should reflect the views of stakeholders in their development plan.

Inspection Grades

Quality of care and support	Grade 5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	Grade 5 - Very Good
Quality of management and leadership	Grade 5 - Very Good